



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on January 11, 2006, at the Burton M. Cross State Office Building, Augusta with the following members present: Chair James Carignan; Vice Chair Phil Dionne; Joyce McPhetres, Jack Norris, Ellie Multer, Janet Tockman, and Jean Gulliver. Excused: Ann Weisleder.

Note: This is a nine member Board with one position currently vacant.

Also present were: Patrick Phillips, Deputy Commissioner; Harry Osgood, Acting Education Policy Director/Team Leader, Support Systems Team; Greg Scott, Legislative Liaison; and Rhonda Casey, Clerk.

CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Janet Tockman, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the November 9, 2005, minutes as written.

CONSENT AGENDA:

CONSIDERATION OF THE INTERIM REPORT FROM THE COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC'S TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

CONSIDERATION OF THE REQUEST FROM NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE TO OFFER ACADEMIC CREDIT PROGRAMS IN MAINE

CONSIDERATION OF THE REQUEST FROM SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY TO OFFER ACADEMIC CREDIT PROGRAMS IN MAINE

APPROVAL OF THE VISITATION TEAM FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT PRESQUE ISLE

CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FROM UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE TO SEEK
STATE APPROVAL FOR THE UNIFIED SECONDARY GENERAL AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION ETEP OPTION

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Joyce McPhetres, and unanimously voted to approve the consent agenda.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

INITIATION OF THE MAINE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT (APA) FOR
CHAPTER 13: QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS FOR TEACHERS, EDUCATIONAL
SPECIALISTS, AND ADMINISTRATORS

Background: On December 14, 2005, the State Board of Education provisionally adopted amended Chapter 115, Certification, Authorization, and Approval of Educational Personnel. Included in the amendments was the removal of reference to the testing requirements for a targeted need certification for prelingually deaf certification candidates (Chapter 115, Part II, Section 5.5.D.7). This change necessitates an amendment to this rule Chapter 13, Qualifying Examinations for Teachers, Educational Specialists, and Administrators, which specifies the tests that are required for teacher certification and their respective passing scores.

Section 4.9 of the proposed rule has been amended to allow certification candidates who are prelingually deaf and who have received an initial endorsement of “Teacher of Deaf or Hearing Impaired Students” under Chapter 115, Part II, Section 2.2 a waiver to the certification testing requirements. A waiver would apply to the Pre-Professional Skills Test (PRAXIS I), PRAXIS II Content Knowledge Assessment, or the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) Examination.

The rule adds specific requirements for prelingually deaf candidates in lieu of the testing requirements: documentation that the candidate is prelingually deaf; documentation that the candidate has graduated from a state or nationally approved teacher preparation program for teachers of deaf children; and, documentation that the candidate is proficient in American Sign Language.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve proceeding with rulemaking regarding the proposed amendments to Chapter 13 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act.

MOVED by Jack Norris, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted to approve proceeding with rulemaking regarding the proposed amendments to Chapter 13 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Deputy Commissioner reported for Commissioner Gendron during the workshop portion of the Board's meeting as she was not able to attend the Board meeting due to a conflict.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chair Carignan reported on the following:

- That he and other members of the Select Panel attended a Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education meeting to present the report, The Learning State: Maine Schooling for the 21st Century. The meeting went well and good feedback was received. In addition, the Select Panel is scheduling additional meetings with the Maine School Superintendents Association, the Maine Education Association, and the Maine School Boards Association. After the panel has finished its meetings around the state, it will reconvene and review the comments and if necessary revise its report.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Ellie Multer:

- That she attended an Education Committee work session on LD 1332. The bill would have mandated construction of a "vocational" school in Washington County and prohibited duplication of "programs offered by Washington Academy." She circulated to the Committee a rationale essentially opposing the proposed legislation (but not the idea of a CTE facility for the county.) The bill was voted ONTP by the Education Committee.

Jean Gulliver:

- That the Insured Value Factor Study Group met on January 4 in an effort to address the issues outlined in LD 989.

Phil Dionne:

- That the Career Technical Education (CTE) Stakeholders met to discuss the federal plan for next year.
- The next project facing the Career Technical Education Stakeholders is to develop a process to implement the CTE formula in the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) model.

ADJOURNMENT:

State Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn the January 11, 2006, meeting at 2.35 p.m.